

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: 98-01566

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

FEB 25 1999

Applicant requests his Self-Initiated Elimination package for T-41 training at the United States Air Force Academy be removed from his permanent record. Applicant's submission is at Exhibit A.

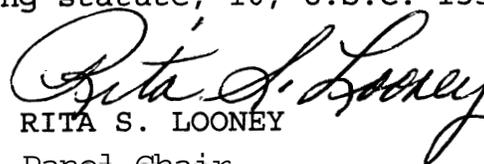
The appropriate Air Force office evaluated applicant's request and provided an advisory opinion to the Board recommending the application be denied (Exhibit C). The advisory opinion was forwarded to the applicant for review and response (Exhibit D). As of this date, no response has been received by this office.

After careful consideration of applicant's request and the available evidence of record, we find insufficient evidence of error or injustice to warrant corrective action. The facts and opinions stated in the advisory opinion appear to be based on the evidence of record and have not been rebutted by applicant. Absent persuasive evidence applicant was denied rights to which entitled, appropriate regulations were not followed, or appropriate standards were not applied, we find no basis to disturb the existing record.

Accordingly, applicant's request is denied.

The Board staff is directed to inform applicant of this decision. Applicant should also be informed that this decision is final and will only be reconsidered upon the presentation of new relevant evidence which was not reasonably available at the time the application was filed.

Members of the Board Ms. Rita S. Looney, Mr. Terry A. Yonkers, and Ms. Patricia D. Vestal considered this application on 26 January 1999 in accordance with the provisions of Air Force Instruction 36-2603, and the governing statute, 10, U.S.C. 155


RITA S. LOONEY
Panel Chair

Exhibits:

- A. Applicant's DD Form 149
- B. Available Master Personnel Records
- C. Advisory Opinion
- D. AFBCMR Ltr Forwarding Advisory Opinion



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY
USAF ACADEMY, COLORADO



31 Jul 98

MEMORANDUM FOR AFBCMR

FROM: 34 OSS/CC
9206 Airfield Drive, Suite 1
USAF Academy CO 80840-2060

SUBJECT: Application for Correction of Military Records (DD Form 149) [REDACTED]

1. Applicant has submitted a request for correction of military records in regards to his self-initiated elimination (SIE) from T-41 training while attending the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA).
2. Applicant states he voluntarily disenrolled from T-41 training because it was not a graduation requirement and at the time he felt like he needed to focus more on academics.
3. Applicant was enrolled in the T-41 class 94-04 at USAFA. That would place the applicant in the T-41 program during the summer before his first class year (senior), more specifically summer period three during the Commandants summer military training program. The applicant was only enrolled in the T-41 program and did not have any other competing academic classes. Applicant flew his first sortie on 20 Jul 93 which was incomplete due to weather. The second sortie followed on 21 Jul 93 and the applicant received an excellent overall grade for the sortie. This is reflected by the ATC Form 860 in the applicant's attached T-41 records. The first documented indication of the applicant's desire to a SIE from T-41 training came 21 Jul 93, as evidenced by the ATC 803A in the applicant's attached T-41 records. In the 803A dated 21 Jul 93, the applicant's flight commander wrote, "Note: (Applicant) stated he has a desire to SIE because of the following reasons - 1. He has other career plans and 2. Doesn't enjoy flying at all - he feels very uncomfortable in the airplane. (Applicant) has a fine attitude and has given this program a try - he just doesn't enjoy it and would rather do something else for a career." On that same day 21 Jul 93, the applicant was counseled by the 557 FTS squadron commander and applicant's flight commander. **An ATC Form 126A dated 21 Jul 93** was signed by the applicant and the 557 FTS squadron commander. The applicant also signed on 22 Jul 93 a letter of declination of Undergraduate Flying Training (UFT), where it was clearly spelled out that if the applicant was an SIE he would be ineligible to apply for UFT in the future. The applicant's T-41 records were sent to the 54th Operations Group at USAFA for review, and the Operations Group commander who was the eliminating official signed the ATC Form 126A. The applicant was then classified as a SIE on the records maintained at the 34 OSS/OST, USAFA. Both the ATC Form 126A and the

letter of declination of Undergraduate Flying Training are included in the applicant's T-41 records.

4. Starting with the **USAFA** Class of 1992, pilot training slots were severely cut due to the Air Force down sizing. Prior to this time all medically qualified volunteers were eligible for UFT. The applicant's graduating Class of 1994 had 520 eligible pilot candidates but only 225 available slots for UFT. Only the top 43% of the Class of 1994 would be selected for UFT. The selection process was conducted by a board using grade point average (**GPA**), military point average, physical education average, and performance in the T-41 program. The applicant's academic order of merit was 652 out of 1024, which placed the applicant in the top 37% of his class. If the applicant completed the T-41 program, he would have had an even shot for a UFT slot. The applicant maintained a **GPA** around 2.6 as evidenced in the applicant's attached grade transcript. The applicant signed a letter of declination of Undergraduate Flying Training on 22 Jul 93. Air Force Instruction 36-2205, figure 1.1 clearly states that those eliminated for self-initiated elimination (SIE) are ineligible for further flying training. The applicant's SIE records were typical for that time frame and no major discrepancies were noted.

5. Recommendation: Deny request. [REDACTED] was not in jeopardy of failing out of **USAFA** for grades. Further more, he was enrolled in the T-41 program during the summer where there was no competing interests with academics during the school year. He also had an even shot at going to Undergraduate Flying Training considering his class standing. Concerns have been also raised about [REDACTED] stated reasons for his self-initiated elimination. The flight commander noted "[REDACTED] stated he has a desire to SIE because of the following reasons - 1. He has other career plans and 2. Doesn't enjoy flying at all - he feels very uncomfortable in the airplane." This strong statement could indicate [REDACTED] has a manifestation of apprehension for flying (fear of flying). I feel there is not sufficient justification to grant the relief sought and that this course of action is in the best interest of the Air Force. However, if the decision is to grant the relief sought, the declination of Undergraduate Flying Training letter dated 22 Jul 93 and **ATC** Form 126A dated 21 Jul 93 should be removed from [REDACTED] Air Force Academy T-41 training record.


DARYL P. JONES, Lt Col, USAF
Commander
34th Operations Support Squadron

[REDACTED]

9801566